



# Local Lines

Shrewsbury Electric and Cable Operations  
508-841-8500

What's  
Happening at  
SELCO  
June, 2007

## Save Energy and Money by Slaying Electric Vampires

### What's an Electric Vampire?

Electric vampires are electronics or appliances that continue to suck power even when they are turned "off." This power is used by clock displays, remote controls, and battery chargers.

### "Off" vs. "Sleep"

Computers, printers, copiers, scanners and other office equipment often comes with a "sleep" or "energy saver" mode. While this does in fact save energy, you will save even more by turning equipment off using the power button when it's not in use.

### Battery Chargers

Did you know that battery and phone chargers use electricity even once the batteries are fully charged?

In fact, any electronic device with a wallpack (that big black box that plugs into the outlet) uses electricity even when the device it's plugged into is turned off. Don't believe it? Touch the wallpack... It's warm because it's wasting electricity and money.

### What Can You Do?

Plug all battery chargers into a power strip and turn the power strip OFF when batteries are done charging. Turn electronic equipment off using the power button on the device itself instead of leaving it in sleep mode.

## SELCO Open House

Each year SELCO invites 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes from Shrewsbury Public Schools and Shrewsbury Montessori School, as well as 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from St. Mary's School, to tour our electric garage. More than 500 students attended this year's event where they learned about electric generation, transmission, safety and conservation.



### Clockwise from Top:

John Welch teaches about electrical safety; Billy Moore conducts an electrical experiment; Joel Malaver and Paul Maynard give a tour of SELCO's electric trucks.



*Customer Appreciation Coupon*

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Coupon expires 8/31/2007. Limit one (1) coupon per SELCO Cable account. Good for one (1) SELCO Video on Demand selection up to \$3.95. Clip coupon and return with payment or deliver to the SELCO office. Video on Demand is available to SELCO Digital Cable customers only.

## Should You Buy Your Own Cable Box?

Over the years the federal government has passed laws and regulations in an attempt to promote competition in the cable industry. Economists say that competition and consumer choice theoretically can bring lower prices.

In this spirit, the the federal government is implementing the Open Cable Application Platform (OCAP) effective July 1, 2007. This new regulation will allow consumers to purchase their own cable converters from electronics stores rather than get them from their cable company.

As with most electronic devices there are always compatibility issues. Although it is questionable whether converters will be on store shelves by the July 1<sup>st</sup> date, we urge customers not to rush out and buy a new converter. The OCAP technology is still being tested.

SELCO will keep you updated and provide additional information as these converters become available.



## SELCO Wishes a Happy Retirement to Sonny Logan and Donna Messier

**Elliot "Sonny" Logan** has retired from SELCO for a second time. Sonny originally retired in 1987 after 31 years of service. He was asked to come out of retirement to serve as SELCO's Assistant Wire Inspector in 1998.

Sonny recently resigned from his part time position, bringing his second SELCO career to a close after another 9 years. His quiet, professional manner will be missed.

**Donna Messier** retired June 1<sup>st</sup> after serving as a SELCO Customer Service Representative for 20 years. In addition to her CSR position, Donna was also responsible for processing electric permit applications for SELCO for the past 20 years. Her soft spoken charm and smile will be missed by SELCO employees and customers alike.



SELCO wishes Sonny and Donna the very best as they begin a long, happy, and well-deserved retirement.

## SELCO Frequently Asked Questions

### Q. What are SELCO's Summer Hours?

A. SELCO is open from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday beginning May 21<sup>st</sup> and ending September 7<sup>th</sup>. Our winter hours (7:30 am to 5 pm) will resume September 10<sup>th</sup>.

### Q. Is SELCO Telephone compatible with my home alarm system?

A. Yes! Contrary to what you may have read or heard about VoIP and monitored alarm systems, SELCO Telephone service works with most alarm systems on the market today. Unlike Internet-based VoIP telephone, SELCO Telephone is a Managed Facility Voice Network (MFVN) that ensures service quality and reliability, and provides real-time transmission of voice signals, carrying alarm formats unchanged.

SELCO provides professional installation that preserves primary line seizure for alarm signal transmission. We also maintain battery backup and network power restoration systems that are generally comparable to those of traditional landline telephone services. ADT burglar alarms are now 'in policy' to use SELCO Telephone as a primary communication medium for monitoring, and SELCO also maintains a working relationship with several local alarm service installers.

## Order MLB Extra Innings Now!



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**Shrewsbury Electric and Cable Operations**  
**100 Maple Avenue – Shrewsbury, MA 01545 – 508-841-8500**  
**Summer Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-F**